



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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MAY 19 2010

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Ref 8EPR-SR

Mr. Chuck Racicot
1312 Cabinet Ave.
Libby, MT 599923

Dear Mr. Racicot:

Thank you for your letter of April 27, 2010, to EPA Administrator Jackson concerning EPA's cleanup action at the Cabinet View Country Club (CVCC) golf course. Administrator Jackson has asked me to respond to the issues raised in your letter. In your letter you raised concerns regarding the loss of income due to closure of the 9 holes impacted by the cleanup and how restoration of the golf course was being conducted. The following is EPA's response to these two concerns.

Loss of Income

EPA worked closely with the CVCC Board of Directors to minimize the impact from the closure of the 9 holes due to the cleanup. The cleanup was conducted towards end of the golfing season in agreement with the CVCC, during a time of low usage. Also, during the cleanup activities, a temporary club house was provided to allow for golf to continue on the 9 holes of the golf course not impacted by the cleanup. This minimized the loss of income to the CVCC. Unfortunately, the Superfund law does not allow EPA to provide businesses with a settlement for loss of income resulting from cleanup activities. Thus, EPA is unable to provide funds to the CVCC due to a loss of income. This is how all businesses in Libby have been treated during the cleanup of their properties.

Restoration of the Golf Course

During the planning of the golf course cleanup, EPA determined that its contractors did not have the specialized experience needed to successfully restore the golf course to a satisfactory condition. In addition, the CVCC Board of Directors wanted to modify the 9 holes of the golf course impacted by the cleanup to current USGA guidelines. If EPA had conducted the restoration, the golf course would have been returned to its original configuration. Consequently, EPA and the CVCC agreed that the CVCC would be responsible for the restoration of the golf course. EPA provided funds in an escrow account to be used for the restoration of the golf course. The amount of funds provided was based on the cost EPA would have incurred if EPA had conducted the restoration to the original golf course configuration. Thus, your concerns regarding the implementation strategy for the golf course restoration should be directed to the CVCC Board of Directors, as they are responsible for this aspect of the work.



Citizen In
Citizen/Oric

I hope this information will be helpful to you. If EPA can provide any further information regarding the CVCC golf course, please contact Ted Linnert, Community Involvement Coordinator, at 303-312-6119 or linner.ted@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Bill Murray, Program Director
Superfund Remedial Program

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